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NEWS RELEASE

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Senate Confirms Beverly Reid O'Connell for Central District of California Judgeship

SAN FRANCISCO – The Senate today confirmed President Obama's nomination of Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Beverly Reid O'Connell to serve as a district judge of the United States District Court for the Central District of California. The Senate vote was 92-0 in favor of the nomination.

Judge O'Connell will fill a judgeship vacant since March 1, 2012, when District Judge Valerie Baker Fairbank assumed senior status. Judge O'Connell was originally nominated for the seat on November 14, 2012, but did not receive a confirmation vote by the Senate in the last session of Congress. President Obama renominated her on January 4, 2013.

Appointed to the state bench in 2005 by Governor Schwarzenegger, Judge O'Connell served as an assistant supervising judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court's North Valley District. She has also sat by designation on the California Court of Appeals for the Second District, Division 8. Prior to coming onto the bench, Judge O'Connell had served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Central District of California from 1995 to 2005 and as an associate with the law firm of Morrison & Foerster from 1990 to 1995.

Judge O'Connell received her B.A. from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1986 and her J.D. in 1990 from Pepperdine University, School of Law, where she graduated magna cum laude and served as managing editor of the Pepperdine Law Review.

The U.S. District Court for the Central District of California is among the nation's busiest federal trial courts with 17,086 new case filings in fiscal year 2012. The court is authorized 28 judgeships, including one temporary judgeship and currently has no vacancy.

Federal district court judges, appointed under Article III of the Constitution, are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior. Their current annual salary is \$174,000.

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